



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge

Begins Comprehensive Conservation Planning Process

Why is a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) being prepared?

The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 requires that a CCP be prepared for each refuge in the National Refuge System. Both the Service and the public will benefit from this requirement, as the CCP process provides many opportunities for ensuring that the long-term vision and goals for refuges will be evaluated, developed, and achieved.

What does this mean for the Refuge?

- Provides a clear vision of the future desired conditions for the Refuge over the next 15 years.
- Ensures that management decisions will fulfill the mission of the Refuge System, as well as the specific purposes for which the Refuge was established.
- Provides direction for wildlife management practices, fishing and hunting programs, endangered species recovery, land acquisition, habitat restoration, facilities development and maintenance, staffing and administrative priorities.
- Identifies which public uses are appropriate and compatible with the purposes of the Refuge and the vision and goals that are established.

How You Can Help

◇ You can help us the most by getting involved. Give us your thoughts and ideas regarding future management of the Refuge.

◇ Help us identify potential issues related to refuge management, wildlife-dependent recreational uses, habitat protection, and more.

◇ You can also assist us in exploring what opportunities or alternatives might be available to resolve potential issues.

◇ Join us at upcoming public meetings. Your comments can stimulate new ideas in other participants.

◇ You can also provide input by writing or e-mailing us.

◇ Finally, your assistance is needed to get the word out about this process. Suggest to your friends and family that they too get involved.

You are an important part of the process; please join us.

For questions, additional information or comments, please contact:

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A final document is scheduled for completion by 2012 so request to receive information throughout the process.